GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:351
ANSWERED ON:07.07.2004
PESTICIDES IN BOTTLED DRINKING WATER
Athawale Shri Ramdas

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has seriously taken the matter of presence of pesticides in bottled drinking water of various brands;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Bureau of Indian Standards proposes to change the standard of investigation in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a)&(b): Yes, Sir to ensure safe packaged drinking water in the revised standards of Packaged Drinking Water prescribed under PFA Rules, 1955, the requirements of pesticide residues have been prescribed as follows:

(i) Pesticide residues : considered individually

Not more than 0.0001mg/litre (The analysis shall be conducted by using Internationally established test methods meeting the residue limits specified herein)

(ii) Total pesticide: residues

Not more than 0.0005 mg/litre (The analysis shall be conducted by using Internationally established test methods meeting the residue limit specified herein).

Packaged Drinking Water is under Compulsory Certification Scheme of Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS). Accordingly, the BIS inspects and tests the quality of this product as per the provisions contained in the inspection and testing scheme of BIS.

(c)&(d): The Bureau of Indian Standards has revised the test methods for pesticide residues as per Internationally Accepted Test Methods which became effective from 1.1.2004.